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Bussa language

Bussa, or **Mossiya**, is a Cushitic language spoken in the Dirashe special woreda of the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region located in southern Ethiopia. The people themselves, numbering 18,000 according to the 2007 census, call their language *Mossittaata*.

Bussa	
Mossiya	
Mossittaata	
Native to	Ethiopia
Region	Dirashe special woreda, Southern Ethiopia
Native speakers	18,000 (2007 census)[1]
Language family	Afro-Asiatic ▪ Cushitic ▪ Lowland East ▪ Oromoid ▪ Konsoid ▪ **Bussa**
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	`dox` (part)
Glottolog	`buss1239 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/buss1239)`[2]

Blench (2006) reclassified Bussa from the Dullay to Konsoid branch of Cushitic, but left the Mashole, Lohu, and Dobase (D'oopace, D'opaasunte) dialects in Dullay as the Dobase language. He considers Mashile (Mashelle) to be a distinct language within Konsoid.[3]

Bussa is highly influenced by surrounding Cushitic and Omotic languages and should be considered endangered according to Gurmu (2005). Speakers of the North Bussa variety are shifting to Oromo, Dirasha or Amharic, whereas speakers of the West Bussa variety are shifting to the Omotic languages Zargulla, Zayse and Gamo. Important factors for the ongoing language shift include intermarriage with other ethnic groups and heavy contact with neighbouring people.

References

- Gurmu, Alemayehu [2005] 'Some Notes on Sociolinguistic Aspects of Bussa' (unpublished paper presented at *International Conference on Endangered Ethiopian Languages*, Addis Ababa 27–30 April 2005)
- Wedekind, Klaus (ed.) (2002) 'Sociolinguistic survey report of the languages of the Gawwada (Dullay), Diraasha (Gidole), Muusiye (Bussa) areas.' SIL Electronic Survey Reports 2002-065 (http://www.sil.org/silesr/abstract.asp?ref=2002-065).

External links

1. Ethiopia 2007 Census (http://www.csa.gov.et/newcsaweb/images/documents/surveys/Population%20and%20Housing%20census/ETH-pop-2007/survey0/data/Doc/Reports/National_Statistical.pdf)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Bussa" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/buss1239). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Blench, 2006. The Afro-Asiatic Languages: Classification and Reference List (http://rogerblench.info/Language/Afroasiatic/General/AALIST.pdf) (ms)

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